

01 JUNI 2004

From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

PCT

Kiw/cou

To:

PLOUGMANN & VINGTOFT A/S
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NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

		Date of mailing (day/month/year)	28.05.2004
Applicant's or agent's file reference 32295 PC 01		IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION	
International application No. PCT/DK 03/00331	International filing date (day/month/year) 19.05.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 17.05.2002	
Applicant LICA PHARMACEUTICALS A/S et al.			

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed inventions is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized Officer Roche, S Tel. +49 89 2399-8031
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 32295 PC 01	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/DK 03/00331	International filing date (day/month/year) 19.05.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 17.05.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC C07C225/16		
Applicant LICA PHARMACEUTICALS A/S et al.		
<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of sheets.</p> <p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the opinion II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application 		

Date of submission of the demand 22.11.2003	Date of completion of this report 28.05.2004
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized Officer Goetz, G Telephone No. +49 89 2399-8105



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

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I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)):

Description, Pages

1-67 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-50 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1-8 as originally filed

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages:
- the claims, Nos.:
- the drawings, sheets:

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5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

the entire international application,

claims Nos. 39 - 50

because:

the said international application, or the said claims Nos. 39 - 50 relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (specify):

see separate sheet

the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):

the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

no international search report has been established for the said claims Nos.

2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions:

the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the Standard.

the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the Standard.

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N) Yes: Claims 1-50
No: Claims

Inventive step (IS) Yes: Claims 1-50
No: Claims

Industrial applicability (IA) Yes: Claims 1-38
No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations

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see separate sheet

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Re Item III

Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

For the assessment of the present claims 39 - 50 on the question whether they are industrially applicable, no unified criteria exist in the PCT Contracting States. The patentability can also be dependent upon the formulation of the claims. The EPO, for example, does not recognize as industrially applicable the subject-matter of claims to the use of a compound in medical treatment, but may allow, however, claims to a known compound for first use in medical treatment and the use of such a compound for the manufacture of a medicament for a new medical treatment.

Claims 39 - 50 relate to subject-matter considered by this Authority to be covered by the provisions of Rule 67.1(iv) PCT. Consequently, no opinion will be formulated with respect to the industrial applicability of the subject-matter of these claims (Article 34(4)(a)(I) PCT).

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

D1: WO 93 17671 A (STATENS SERUMINSTITUT) 16 September 1993 (1993-09-16) cited in the application

D2: WO 99 00114 A (CHRISTENSEN SOEREN BROEGGER ;STATENS SERUMINSTITUT (DK); KHARAZMI) 7 January 1999 (1999-01-07) cited in the application

1. Present claim 1 is directed to chalcone derivatives having antibacterial and antiparasitic activity.
Chalcone derivatives are disclosed in D1 and D2; these compounds show the same biological activity. D1 as well as D2 can thus be regarded as representing the closest prior art.
2. The claimed compounds differ from the chalcone derivatives known from D1/D2 in

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International application No. PCT/DK03/00331

particular by the substituent Y^1/Y^2 which is represented by the formula $-N-R^3-Z-$
 $N(R^1)R^2$.

None of the compounds disclosed in either D1 or D2 shows this structural feature. The subject matter of present claims 1 to 16 (compounds), 17 to 33 (composition, use of the compounds), 34 to 38 (preparation of the compounds), 39 to 50 (use) is thus novel over said prior art (PCT Article 33.2).

3. In view of D1/D2 the underlying problem can be defined by the provision of further chalcone derivatives having antibacterial and antiparasitic activity.

The claimed compounds are regarded to solve this problem since the presented examples and biological tests are considered to be a representative for the subject matter of present claim 1.

The structural difference between the claimed compounds and the prior art compounds (as mentioned above) is thus that starting from D1/D2 it appears not to be obvious to modulate and amend the structure of the prior art compounds in the way it has been done in present application. There is also no indication to be found in D1/D2 which would encourage the skilled person to perform these amendments in the structure of the known compounds.

In addition the comparison tests between the claimed compounds and lipochalcone A and 4-methoxy-chalcone (both compounds disclosed in D1 and both compounds not having the substituent Y^1/Y^2) show the superior activity of the claimed compounds. Such an effect is not derivable from the prior art.

The subject matter of present claims 1 to 16 and consequently claims 17 to 50 is thus regarded to be based on an inventive step (PCT Article 33.3).

4. Industrial applicability can be acknowledged for claims 1 to 38 (PCT Article 33.4)